

Message Text

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15

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 FEA-01 AGR-05

CEA-01 COME-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 LAB-04

NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 TAR-01

TRSE-00 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 OIC-02 AF-06 ARA-06

NEA-09 /125 W

----- 031864

O R 160705Z APR 75

FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 54

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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PASS STR FOR AMB. DENT - IMMEDIATE

PASS AGRICULTURE FOR YEUTTER

E.O. 11652: N/A

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TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJECT: MTN: CONTINUED STALEMATE IN AGRICULTURE GROUP

1. SUMMARY: THE EC HAS INDICATED THAT IT WOULD AGREE TO ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN LONDON PROVIDED NEGOTIATING SUBGROUPS ON GRAINS, DAIRY, MEAT AND POSSIBLY SUGAR WERE ESTABLISHED CURRENTLY AS NEGOTIATING SUBGROUPS OF THE AGRICULTURE GROUP. THEIR EMPHASIS THAT THESE SUBGROUPS BE NEGOTIATING BODIES IS RELATED TO THEIR INSISTENCE THAT THE AGRICULTURE GROUP HAS SOLE JURISDICTION OVER THE NEGOTIATION OF AGRICULTURAL QUESTIONS IN THE MTN. THEY WOULD AGREE TO POSTPONE THE DEBATE OVER WHETHER TO ESTABLISH TARIFF AND NONTARIFF MEASURE SUBGROUPS OF THE AGRICULTURE GROUP UNTIL ANOTHER MEETING OF THE AGRICULTURE GROUP TO BE CALLED SOON. THE U.S. DEL WELCOMED THE EC STATEMENT WITH RESPECT TO LONDON GRAINS WORK BUT NOTED THAT THE CONDITIONS POSED WERE COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE. END SUMMARY.

2. NO WORK TOOK PLACE IN THE VERY SHORT PRO FORMA SESSION OF THE PLENARY AS THE US AND EC HAVE BEEN MEETING BOTH BILATERALLY AND IN A RESTRICTED GROUP OF TEN COUNTRIES TO ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE DIFFERENCES. GATT DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL PATTERSON HAS DRAFTED A PROPOSED CHAIRMAN'S SUMMING UP OF THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE AGRICULTURE GROUP MEETING WHICH HAS SERVED AS THE BASIS FOR INTENSIVE NEGOTIATIONS.

3. TEXT OF CHAIRMAN'S SUMMING UP REGARDING ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMODITY SUBGROUPS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE. THE GROUP AGREED TO ESTABLISH (NEGOTIATING) SUBGROUPS IN THE FOLLOWING SECTORS, RESPECTIVELY:

(A) GRAINS. IT WAS UNDERSTOOD THAT GOVERNMENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WERE ALSO PARTICIPATING IN THE WORK RECENTLY STARTED IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE INTERNATIONAL WHEAT COUNCIL WOULD CONTINUE ACTIVELY TO PURSUE THAT WORK ALSO. AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME, THE SUBGROUP SHALL CONSIDER HOW BEST TO INTEGRATE INTO ITS WORK ANY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RESULTS OF THE WORK AT PRESENT GOING ON IN THE INTERNATIONAL WHEAT COUNCIL.

(B) DAIRY PRODUCTS.

(C) MEAT (INCLUDING LIVE ANIMALS).

(D) SUGAR.

END QUOTE.

4. THE KEY DELEGATIONS COULD ALSO AGREE TO STATEMENT AGRICULTURE GROUP CHAIRMAN'S SUMMING UP THAT QUOTE THE GROUP AGREED THAT IT WOULD TREAT AGRICULTURAL ASPECTS OF TARIFF AND NONTARIFF MEASURES IN CLOSE COORDINATION WITH THE TREATMENT OF TARIFFS AND NONTARIFF MEASURES IN THE GROUPS TARIFFS AND NONTARIFF MEASURES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR MANDATES. UNQUOTE. SINCE THIS STATEMENT DID NOT MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THE TARIFF AND NONTARIFF MEASURES GROUPS WOULD HAVE THE COMPETENCE TO WORK ON GENERAL RULES ALSO AFFECTING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, THE US DEL SUGGESTED THAT A SENTENCE BE ADDED THAT QUOTE THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE WOULD BE ASKED TO ENSURE APPROPRIATE COORDINATION OF ALL ASPECTS OF NEGOTIATIONS AFFECTING AGRICULTURE. UNQUOTE. BECAUSE THIS STATEMENT RECOGNIZED THE PRINCIPLE THAT GENERAL RULES APPLICABLE TO AGRICULTURE COULD BE EVOLVED OUTSIDE OF THE AGRICULTURE GROUP, THE EC REFUSED TO ACCEPT THIS STATEMENT.

5. EC REPRESENTATIVE (PIZZUTI) MADE IT CLEAR DURING A SIX-HOUR EXCHANGE ON THE QUESTION IN RESTRICTED GROUP THAT THE EC WOULD OBJECT TO ANY DISCUSSION OF AGRICULTURAL MEASURES IN ANY TNC GROUP OTHER THAN THE AGRICULTURE GROUP. HE FURTHER ELABORATED ON THIS POSITION PRIVATELY TONIGHT BY STATING THAT THIS OBJECTION WOULD RUN TO DISCUSSION OF AGRICULTURAL ISSUES WHETHER OR NOT EC AGRICULTURAL MEASURES WERE INVOLVED AND WHETHER OR NOT THE EC HAD ANY ECONOMIC INTEREST IN THE ISSUE PROPOSED FOR DISCUSSION. THEY THUS MAINTAINED THEIR INTERPRETATION OF THE TCN CHAIRMAN'S SUMMING UP LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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STATEMENT OF FEBRUARY 11 REGARDING AGRICULTURE AS GIVING EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION OVER ALL AGRICULTURAL ISSUES TO THE AGRICULTURE GROUP.

6. DISCUSSIONS WILL CONTINUE APRIL 16 BOTH IN RESTRICTED GROUP AND IN PLENARY SESSION. HOWEVER, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THIS ISSUE CANNOT BE RESOLVED THIS WEEK. AT LUNCH TODAY PIZZUTI INDICATED FOR THE FIRST TIME, AS PERSONAL VIEW, THAT A FAILURE TO MOVE AHEAD ON AGRICULTURAL ISSUES MIGHT NECESSITATE A DELAY IN THE WORK PROGRAM IN OTHER AREAS.

7. THE EIGHT KEY DELEGATIONS OTHER THAN US AND EC PRESENT AT THE RESTRICTED SESSIONS (JAPAN, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, CANADA, YUGOSLAVIA, HUNGARY,

BRAZIL, ARGENTINA) EVIDENCED DESIRE TO AVOID TAKING
SIDES. WOLFF

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